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Reshaping Government In Metropolitan Areas

Surprising and stimulating . . . CED has sounded a fresh and welcome note.

The New York Times

Reflects the extent to which the thinking about the problems of urban America has grown in realism and responsibility.

Cincinnati Enquirer

New styles of government are needed to cope with the pressing problems of urban life, according to this CED policy statement. Recommended is a two-level governmental system for metropolitan areas which combines the benefits of centralization and decentralization. The new structure would include an area-wide level of government containing one or more counties and a local level comprising "community districts." The report provides a brief description of problems in metropolitan areas and demonstrates ways in which the existing governmental structure stands in the way of their solution. Included in the statement is a comprehensive case history of the Metropolitan Toronto experience.

February 1970, 83 pages.

\$1.00

CED Statement on National Policy

About CED...

The Committee for Economic Development (CED) is an independent research and educational organization of 200 leading businessmen and educators, most of whom are board chairmen or presidents of major corporations, or presidents of universities. With the help of advisory boards of distinguished economists and social scientists, CED trustees conduct research and formulate recommendations in four major policy areas: (1) the national economy, (2) the international economy, (3) education and urban development, and (4) the management of federal, state, and local government.

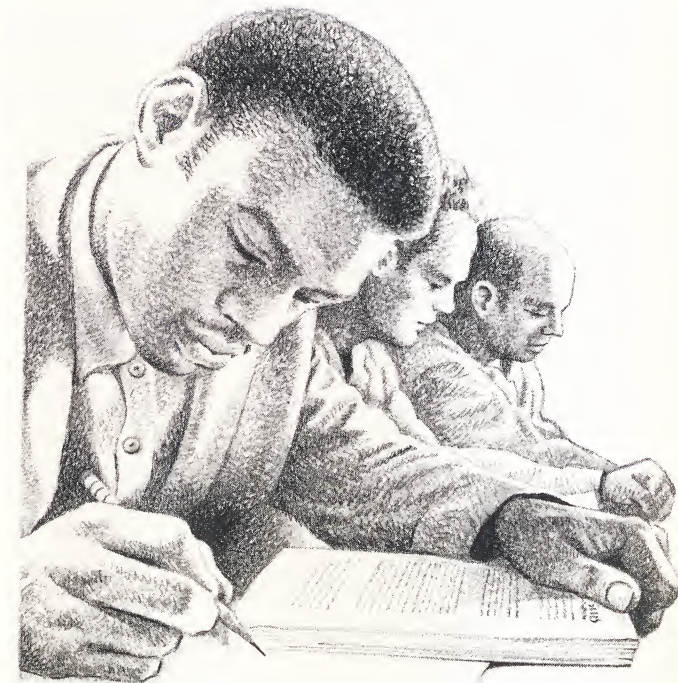
CED is nonprofit, nonpartisan, and nonpolitical. It is supported largely by contributions from business, foundations, and individuals. CED's objective is to promote stable growth with rising living standards and increasing opportunities for all Americans.

For many years CED has devoted considerable effort and resources to studies of the nation's urban and social problems. In 1970 CED launched a new series of urban studies. Its first publications are described in this brochure. Prior CED reports on area development, urban transportation, and housing policy will be further rounded out by others now in progress on preventing crime and improving the administration of justice, financing the nation's housing needs, environment control, and health care.



Committee for Economic Development
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URBAN STUDIES 1970



COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

REVISED and UPDATED

Who Are The Urban Poor?

by Anthony Downs

Many of the myths are being dispelled now that the focus is on poverty. One of the better studies in this regard is the newly released, "Who are the Urban Poor?"

Minneapolis Tribune

This report, revised and updated with new Census Bureau figures, brings together a wealth of data and information on today's most difficult domestic problem. Mr. Downs clarifies the concept of poverty among individuals and families, presents estimates of the numbers in each group, and suggests reasons why they are poor. His analysis explodes many of the myths about America's poor, including the misconception that poverty stems primarily from laziness and lack of ambition.

Mr. Downs shows how present social institutions reinforce poverty—even when they are specifically intended to alleviate it. Consequently, he stresses, "attempts to eliminate poverty are bound to fail in the long run unless they also significantly alter the institutional systems surrounding the poor."

The report discusses several basic policy issues, particularly in relation to training and jobs. Income supplements, manpower programs, higher wages, and new approaches to education are indicated as ways to begin closing the nation's poverty gap.

September 1970 (revised from October 1968 edition) 80 pages, 18 tables. \$1.50

CED Supplementary Paper

The Economic Future Of City And Suburb

by David L. Birch

The first significant sign that the momentum toward a division of America into black urban and white suburban camps is slowing down.

Christian Science Monitor

Mr. Birch's wide-ranging study reexamines the facts about the decay of cities and the resulting racial polarization between city and suburb and suggests that the problem is neither as widespread nor as irreversible as many have assumed.

Mr. Birch, a Harvard Business School professor, foresees an increasing economic specialization of the central city in service-type jobs. Accompanying this shift in economic activity will be a marked shift in population, the author contends. He envisions a growing "suburbanization of the poor" as blacks and other minorities move outward from the city.

The relocation of blacks is only part of the story. In the process, Mr. Birch demonstrates, the quality of black life is improving. Yet the cumulative effect of these changing economic and residential patterns will be "to transfer many of the present problems of the central city to the suburbs, particularly the inner suburbs. . . . The central city crises of the 1960's may well arise as the suburban crises of the 1970's."

July 1970, 56 pages.

\$1.00

CED Supplementary Paper

Improving The Public Welfare System

The national problem of poverty and the failure of the present welfare system are analyzed in this recent policy statement. The report recommends major changes in both the rationale and the administration of the public assistance program, with a view to establishing need as the sole criterion for coverage. Proposals include the establishment of a federally-financed, nationwide minimum level of income maintenance coupled with work incentives, and the development of a national program of day-care centers. The report includes valuable source data on poverty in the United States.

April 1970, 75 pages.

\$1.00

Training And Jobs For The Urban Poor

In this fundamental policy statement, CED explores ways of abating poverty that arises from low wages and chronic unemployment or underemployment. Special emphasis is placed on the economic and social problems arising out of the large proportion of "secondary jobs," which are marked by extremely low wages and lack of stability and advancement opportunities.

The report evaluates current manpower training and employment efforts by government and business. It recommends new government programs and the establishment of experimental, nonprofit Jobs Corporations to provide training and job opportunities for the urban poor.

July 1970, 78 pages.

\$1.25

CED Statements on National Policy

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Who Are the Urban Poor? _____copies at \$1.50 each
The Economic Future of City and Suburb
_____copies at \$1 each

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